

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Paul Birkmeyer et al.

Application No.: 10/708,721

Filed: March 19, 2004

Entitled: SPINAL FIXATION ELEMENTS AND
METHODS

Docket No.: 101896-240 (DEP5278)

Group Art Unit: 3733

Examiner: James L. Swiger III

Certificate of Mailing (37 C.F.R. 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically filed via EFS-Web to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date set forth below.

October 25, 2006

By: 

Date of Signature and Mail Deposit

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

This communication is in response to the Office Action dated October 17, 2006. In the Office Action, the Examiner addresses and rejects claims 1-13. These claims, however, were withdrawn from consideration in Applicant's previous response filed on March 19, 2004. Claims 14-29 are subject to prosecution. Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner issue a new Office Action addressing claims 14-29.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 25, 2006


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